



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Second Victim Dies as a Result of Fatal Crash *Mt. Airy Man to Face Additional Charges*

A second victim has died as a result of a fatal crash in Dayton over the weekend. Victor Guitierrez-Almeida, believed to be from Westminster, died early this morning. He and Gilberto Garcia Vasquez, the first victim killed in the crash, were passengers in a car that crossed the double-yellow line on Md. Route 32 Sunday.

The 20-year-old driver was charged Sunday afternoon after being released from Shock Trauma. Jose Rosendo Algomedas-Santiago, of Liberty Road in Mt. Airy, was charged with homicide by motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, among other charges, in the death of Vasquez. Police anticipate filing additional similar charges in the death of Guitierrez-Almeida.

The collision occurred around 3:55 a.m. March 1 when the car Algomedas-Santiago was driving, a 1995 Volkswagen Jetta, lost control and crossed the double-yellow center line, striking a Dodge 2500 Ram pick-up truck on the opposite side of the road.

Based on evidence obtained during the investigation, police believe Algomedas-Santiago was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the crash. Investigators are not releasing the specific details about the evidence while the investigation continues.

A third passenger in the Jetta, Gonzalo Gutierrez-Molina, 25, of Westminster, was listed in serious condition after the collision. Police do not have updated information on his current status.

The driver of the Dodge pick-up truck, Eric Brent Fratz, 42, of Accident, was not injured.

Algomedas-Santiago faces a total of 10 charges in the death of Vasquez, including the homicide charge, as well as manslaughter by motor vehicle, driving without a license and a series of DUI offenses. He is currently being held at the Howard County Detention Center on \$1 million bond. Additional charges in the death of Guitierrez-Almeida are pending.

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